Tuesday Evening. 28 Dec.

My dear Gray - Last afternoon, my brother brought home the proof of your first sheet, but your letter just now received gives me the first intimation of your wishes as to criticisms, & hence a day's delay occurs in the return of the proof. I am not sorry that there is an opportunity of making some small alteration in the title, which I before thought bit confused by the introduction of the word "comprising". I also propose to remove the ( ) & have suggested an alteration to prevent the sound of "introduction" & "reduction" so close together — I have also proposed a few verbal alterations in the proof but have made my corrections in pencil only that you may rub them out when disapproved. I return the proof by this same Mail — I am glad that you have adopted my views as to the dedication, for, had I not thought it desirable, on your own account, & for the reasons I assigned, I should not have been capable of so great an act of self-denial —

I am glad you did not alter C. Tuck. as I feel a strong assurance that it will turn out to be quite correct, & I well remember seeing over Sclw. Lib. & observing the facts you mention in connection

with the 2 species, & the South[n] locality of C. cylind. which I believe I also mentioned to you in my last letter. When I see Torr. Coll[n] I shall look how the matter stands, but, in the mean time, all evidence points our way, to say nothing of your personal recollection on which I place great reliance — As to E. T. I dislike to think of one whom I cannot but hold in extreme contempt — This last thifling affair is just in keeping with his character — Had I uncontrolled discretion with your Preface, you should not, for your own sake, call him "my friend" especially as it might be very well omitted where it occurs in connection with the second mention of his name — "Dii resemblent d'ápem-blent" says the French Proverb, from the inferred action of which I will protect your name — If I & B. write to him, at all, after seeing Torrey's orig[l] specimens, it will be very briefly, as you will see; & I shall leave him to infer, what I do not think it necessary to tell him as to my feelings in regard to himself & his letter. But no more of your "friend" — I am heartily glad to hear that Kendler's Collect[n] turns out so well, & that the forms are not Mexican — My brother wishes you to forward his name for as complete a set as may be (excluding Rosses Lichenes, for which he does not care) — When you know the exact amount, he will forward the $ as you may direct — I believe I have told you I cannot subscribe for these plants — "My poverty & not my will consents" to forego them — I am much grieved to hear of poor George's sickness, which your letter before me, informs me of for the first time — I beg my kind regards to him, with best wishes for his recovery — You will be sorry to hear that I am myself quite unwell & have been confined to the house since the 16th, under care of D[r] Beales — My complaint is local, the D[r] thinks, enlargement of the prostrate gland! He bleeds me with leeches, & has reduced me much, without, at present, having arrested the disorder — You will readily suppose that any thing so very annoying does not increase my comforts, but I have still very many blessings for which to be thankful! Mr Kingsford fortunately returned the very day before I was laid up, & I was enabled comfortably to surrender my charge — I thank you for the Copies of "Carex" which I have distributed to all our Botanists, I believe — I should like Kunze to have one — How do I address him? are there any other of your "bloody Frenchmen" to whom you would care to send it? I have a dozen copies left, I believe. I am well pleased with the Grasses so far as I have proceeded with them — Here follow queries to be answered

1. what is our old Vitis Indica? & how distinguish from Riparia. cryptand. which last seems also (vide your desk) to be Vitis tenacissima Nees. & Poa littoralis Nutt! Is it so?

2. Do you know a grass from Chapman-Flor.a which he calls a stout form of Agrost. Michxpodes? It is a good Sporobolus, tho' externally very like what he compares it to-

3. I strongly suspect that Muhl. (Dichochloa) capillaris runs into Agrostis Michx. Ell. The awn of the glumes seems to vary wonderfully in length- Did this ever strike you? If not, bear it in mind.

4. What is the real Aspidium spinulosum? & where is it found?

5. Have you any (European?) specimen of Dryopt. rigida to spare? Is it Europ.a?

6. Do you remember among the plants sent you last winter by Lindley, or Ware, an Aspid. which came from Bermudas- Lees, & which I thought was the same plant that our Southern fellows call A. Nov-Ebor- I want to know the name under which this was sent to me, as I cannot find any mem. of it tho' I thought I took one, when at Cambridge- & soon as I can get out, I mean to see if W. & P. can send on a small Packge I have for you containing some 12 dozen fine Spec.a of my own making & Botts late very long letters- I am just in receipt of a Package from him, forwarded from Boston, by Harnden- From you?- Always faithfully Yrs. A. G.